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SUCCESS STORY

Youth Train to Prevent Road Accidents

Series of seminars educates young people about road traffic safety



Photo: Keik Okara/Timur Saidov

To counter Turkmenistan's high level of road fatalities, two alumni of a USAID exchange program have developed and implemented seminars to young people on responsible driving and first aid.

A series of 16 seminars has taught 192 young people ages 15 to 19 the importance of observing traffic rules and how to provide first aid in the case of an accident.

Subi Ibragimova and Timur Saidov, alumni of a USAID exchange program, conducted a series of seminars on road traffic safety to young people in Turkmenistan based on what they learned in the United States. The seminars aimed to raise awareness of the importance of road traffic safety and of preventing traffic accidents.

Subi and Timur are representatives of Keik Okara, a community-based organization focused on youth development that works primarily with young people from low-income families.

According to them, the importance of road traffic safety is often overlooked in Turkmenistan, despite a high level of traffic fatalities in the country.

They based the seminars on materials and information they gathered during a three-week training program in Reno, Nevada. After returning to Turkmenistan, Subi and Timur developed a training module on road traffic safety with the materials that they received in the United States, translated and adapted for Turkmenistan.

The training consisted of two parts: the first part encouraged young people to drive responsibly, while the second focused on administering basic first aid.

Before holding these seminars, Subi and Timur conducted a training of trainers. The newly trained volunteers helped them to conduct seminars and prepare interactive materials to be used at further trainings.

Sixteen six-day seminars were conducted, training 192 young people ages 15 to 19 on providing first aid and observing traffic rules.